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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. In mid-1952, the Health Department of the Supply and Service Command, Revolutionary Military Council, decided to prolong the term of service for volunteer medical teams in Korea from six to twelve months. When these teams were first organized in China in November 1950, it was stipulated that the term of service would be not less than three and not more than six months. It was also agreed that when a team had completed its term of service, it would be replaced by another team whose members were drawn from the same area. This procedure was followed until June 1950.¹
2. Reasons for the 1952 decision are as follows:
 - a. Most of the members of the teams are from large cities in China. In the past 20 months most of the better-qualified medical doctors have joined these teams, thereby lessening the numbers from which to recruit volunteers.
 - b. Wounded and sick members of the Chinese Communist forces have been returned to the mainland in such great numbers that army medical personnel and facilities are inadequate. Hence the sick and wounded are placed in private hospitals. With both army and private medical personnel thus engaged, it is difficult to recruit team members.
 - c. To draw private medical practitioners from the smaller cities would endanger the health of the people in these cities. Moreover, these doctors are not as well qualified as those from the larger cities and sending them to Korea would lower medical efficiency at the front.

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3. The Health Department is planning to recruit a number of medical personnel for the army but a large number of army medical cadres cannot be expected to take over the work of the medical volunteers until the summer of 1953.

25X1 Comment. As received; presumably 1952 is meant.

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